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May 1, 2001 LB 711

SENATOR BRUNING: Yes, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Could you have told me that there was no actuarial study?

SENATOR BRUNING: Yes, sure, (inaudible).

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, so don't give the impression that I came to you, said what I had to say, then ran off before you could tell me the rest of it. That's all that I will ask you at this point. Members of the Legislature, I wish people would be direct and forthright. I wish I could say that I had never made a mistake on this floor, but I made a mistake on a bill of Senator Brashear's. And as soon as the mistake was called to my attention, Senator Maxwell played a part in it, I acknowledged it, and that was the end of that. I wasn't pussy-footing and blaming Senator Brashear because he didn't understand...explain it, or blame Senator Maxwell or anybody else. So this, I think, is an important point, it is an important occasion and I'm sure that it will be remembered. But in case Senator Bruning or anybody else has a response, while I'm determining whether I'm going to take up the motion, I'm going to leave it there and see if anybody would like to speak.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Stuhr, on the motion to return LB 711 to Select File.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I do want to respond because one of the concerns that the committee had in this whole discussion is that we are setting up an entirely new system. We now presently have five retirement systems in the state. This would establish a sixth system. For one thing, we didn't know whether it would be constitutional. We now have a retirement system for state employees, and yet we are breaking the state employees down now into another grouping. This was a concern, this was something that we felt we needed some additional time to study. And I...I believe that...that Senator Bruning did his best under the circumstances of having the discussion in the committee. When an outside organization, NCSL, which I respect, comes in and does a study, they don't...they don't understand all of what our state is made up